posts of Engineers in the Electronic Discipline alongwith other posts were last advertised during May/June, 1998. There was no irregularity committed in the appointment.

**Waiting List for LPG Connection in Meghalaya**

120. SHRI ONWARD L. NONGTDU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list for LPG connection in Meghalaya as on 31st January, 2000, District-wise;

(b) the time by which the above waiting list is likely to be cleared;

(c) the number of LPG connections proposed to be released in Meghalaya during 2000-2001; and

(d) the effective measures being taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) As on 31-01-2000, there was a pending wait list of 964 with the distributors of PSU Oil Companies in the District of East Khasi Hills in Meghalaya.

(b) The above wait list is likely to be cleared by 31-3-2000.

(c) and (d) LPG connections are released in a phased manner throughout the country depending upon the LPG availability, waiting list, slack available with the distributors and their viability. However the Govt. has a plan to release 1 crore LPG connections during the year 2000 to clear all waiting list registered with the distributors of PSU Oil Companies as on 1-12-1999.